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No worry yet over city projects

Premier's admission of growing deficit has committee looking over its shoulder

DARREN KRAUSE
darren.krause@metronews.ca

The chair of the city's finance committee isn't worried yet that a ballooning provincial deficit could put multimillion dollar municipal infrastructure projects at risk.

Ald. Gord Lowe told Metro yesterday the province has already ex-

tended the timeline for delivery of Municipal Sustainability Initiative funding, but he is well aware the province holds all of the cards — and the city may be forced to re-evaluate the timeline and support for some projects if the province does the same.

"At the moment, I have no reason to believe they will (change the funding)," said Lowe.

"At the moment, I have no reason to believe they will (change the funding)."

Ald. Gord Lowe

"But it's always something we keep our eye on." Premier Ed Stelmach, at an announcement for homeless funding Thursday in Calgary, told reporters he expects weak natural gas prices and a sluggish econo-

my to push the projected provincial deficit higher than the anticipated \$4.7 billion.

The premier acknowledged recent positive economic progress, but added it will take time for the

province to fully recover from a stretch of lower commodity prices.

Lowe said he is aware the province's recent commitment to giving a "haircut" to various departments likely means the city will also have to bear the brunt of its share of cuts.

"When provincial departments take a haircut, it's very often that municipal governments get the

headache," he said.

Lowe said he is worried about the effect on various city infrastructure projects if the province does alter its MSI funding agreement.

"All of these (projects) then become at risk," he said. "It has a real domino effect."

A provincial economic update on first-quarter results is expected at the end of August.

Movies pg 12



Funny People: Comedy as art

Local pg 2

Camp teaches young minds about science

Metro

Metro will not publish Monday, Aug. 3. The next edition will appear Tuesday, Aug. 4.

On the web

Stay informed:

• Go to metronews.ca for your weekend news updates.

Air patrol gets international awards

AMY GREGSON
for Metro Calgary

RECOGNITION Attention to detail paid off for three members of the Calgary Police Air Support Unit honoured with international awards.

Const. Tat Ng and Capt. Cam Duttall received the first-place 2009 Forward Looking Infrared Vision Award from the Airborne Law Enforcement Association for locating a suspect using infrared technology.

"It makes me feel very proud that a little place like ours can beat out some of the massive organizations we were up against in the United States," said Duttall.

In July 2008, Ng and Duttall responded to a report of a stolen vehicle that had almost hit an officer at a check stop.

The driver fled the vehicle and HAWC1 searched for him. Duttall said they were circling around for 20 minutes before Ng picked up a quick flash of heat



Capt. Cam Duttall, left, Const. Tat Ng, centre, and Greg Solar, an engineer with the Calgary Police Service, were given prestigious international awards that were presented by the Airborne Law Enforcement Association for going above and beyond the call of duty.

from the infrared scanner, and city police K-9 units later arrested the man.

Engineer Greg Solar was

awarded the Senior Officer's Compliment from the commanding officer and the ALEA Technical Special-

ist of the Year for finding engine problems that could have had catastrophic effects for HAWC2.

Police look for more victims

VOYEUR City police are looking for more victims after a Calgary man was accused of using a camera to film beneath the skirts of unsuspecting females at a city library last week.

Acting Staff Sgt. Asif Rashid said a woman, 34, complained to library staff that a man had allegedly filmed her while she was perusing books.

The man fled after being confronted by staff and was later arrested at his home, when a search warrant was also executed. The warrant yielded images and photographic video of as many as seven females, both adults and juveniles, Rashid said.

Police are asking women or girls who were at the Crowfoot Public Library on July 23 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. to call Cst. Troy Cheyne at 403-567-6700.

Donovan Lindsay Beppo, 46, of Calgary is charged with one count of voyeurism.

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40 000 procedures

A 23-year-old woman from Strathmore was ejected from a Silver 2001 Chevy Tahoe when it rolled on Highway 817 Wednesday evening. Police said she died of her injuries. **METRO CALGARY**

Local

Youth gridiron season in jeopardy

A slumping economy has put the upcoming junior Prairie Football Conference season in jeopardy for more than 12 players, the club said yesterday. The club's job placement program, which finds local employment for out-of-town players, isn't able to find employment for a number of players. If your business is able to help, please call Sharon Lea at 403-990-8009 or 403-943-3328. **METRO CALGARY**

News in brief

FOUND Hikers near Sulphur Mountain in Banff found what appeared to be skeletal human remains on July 29. RCMP were called and found additional bones over a wide area. Investigators are examining the site and are determining the individual's identity. The death is being considered suspicious, but no foul play is evident.

NAMED Wayne Stewart, former president of the Calgary Homeless Foundation, has been named the new board chair for the Alberta Secretariat for Action on Homelessness. In the next year, the Secretariat will work with Housing and Urban Affairs to develop community plans to combat homelessness.

DIAMOND THEFT Calgary Police are seeking public assistance in locating several individuals that are believed to be responsible for a theft at Charm Diamond in Market Mall July 21. Six individuals, men and women, are believed to be involved in stealing an undisclosed amount of uncut diamonds and diamond rings. Anyone with information is asked to phone Acting Detective Kris Anton at 403-567-6700.

STRATHMORE Shots being fired at a weather monitoring station near Strathmore between May and June 2009 has caused damage to the panels that protect sensitive equipment inside. Anyone with information about the incident is asked to call Strathmore RCMP at 403-934-3968 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

TRANSIT There will be no C-Train service along 7 Avenue from 7 p.m. July 31 to the start of service on Aug. 4 due to the refurbishment project. Shuttle service will happen along 6 Avenue and 5 Avenue. For more information visit www.calgary-transit.com

FUNDING The province committed \$32 million to outreach services to help keep Albertans housed and reach the 10-year plan to end homelessness. The Calgary Homeless Foundation will receive \$13.8 million. **METRO CALGARY**

Putting minds in motion

University of Calgary summer camp turning youth on to science

AMY GREGSON
for Metro Calgary

How do a pop bottle, vinegar and some baking soda become a stunning display of science for at least 20 kids at the University of Calgary Minds in Motion camp?

It sent the 'rocket' bottles soaring into the sky, of course.

Emily Bailey, 10, said the whole week has been learning about DNA, constellations and dissecting crawfish.

"The reason I'm in this camp is because I really like science," said Bailey.

Minds in Motion is designed for kids from Grades 1 to 10 to engage them in science with the hope it exposes them to potential future careers.

Camp attendee Matthew Morrison, 10, said that it's fun making experiments and has already thought about a career as a scientist or engineer.

"I'm interested in building and blowing things up," said Morrison.

Crystal Ross, director of Minds in Motion, said that a declining number of people



Omar Metwali, 9, gets help from Morgan Jones with setting up a bottle rocket to be launched at the Minds in Motion summer camp. More than 1,300 kids from Grades 1 to 10 will be wowed by nature, science and technology by participating first-hand.

going into science professions has made the subject's exposure to a younger crowd very important.

"Children are seeing that it is fun, approachable and it's not just for that stereo-

typical person we view as a scientist," said Ross.

Ross said that by having the camp at the University, it becomes accessible to kids and not a place that is intimidating.

The camp has seen a

slight increase to 1,300 kids from 1,200 the previous year.

Ross said that there are still some spots available for the rest of the summer. For more information, call 403-220-7749.

Brewery making case for site's demolition

AMY GREGSON
for Metro Calgary

MOLSON While many communities groups have been outspoken about the potential demolition of the old Molson Brewery in Inglewood, Ron Mathison of Matco Investments, owner of the site, has been silent about what his plans are.

Eileen Stan spoke on behalf of Mathison yesterday, saying his decision to tear



down the buildings was made because they are not salvageable.

"It's structural failure because of age, water damage due to neglect of previous owners and ongoing maintenance issues," said Stan.

The buildings in concern range in age from 1892 to 1954, said Stan.

Stan said that Mathison has already put \$1 million into the structure to address safety issues and will put \$1 million more into

tearing down the old buildings.

Stan also said that Mathison has no plans to develop on the site right now, but may in the future.

Clint Robertson, a heritage planner with the City of Calgary, said that the site should be preserved.

"It's not only the oldest industrial complex in Calgary, it was one of the most important and always a foundation of the Inglewood community."

Two charged in alleged shooting

AMY GREGSON
for Metro Calgary

CRIME Charges were laid against two men in an alleged shooting in northeast Calgary Thursday morning.

Calgary police arrested two men after they found a vehicle with bullet holes in the 2700 block of Barlow Trail NE shortly after midnight. A victim on scene had suffered a 'superficial' gunshot wound to the face, police said. Two male suspects were found at the 8900 block of 68 Street NE after witnesses provided details of their vehicle. They were detained for questioning.

Two weapons, a silencer, body armour, shell casings, bandanas and toques were recovered after a search warrant was executed on the suspects' vehicle.

"We are very pleased to get this off the streets, but very concerned that criminals have these weapons and are using them," said Staff Sgt. Keith Cain.

Police believe this attack is drug-related and not gang-related.

Stephen Jonathan Demaer, 21, and Anthony Klayton Kuz, 20, face numerous charges in relation to the incident.

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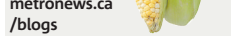
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A military jury has found Cpl. Matthew Wilcox, 24, a Glace Bay, N.S., reservist, guilty of criminal negligence causing death and negligent performance of a military duty in the death of another Canadian soldier in Afghanistan, reports CBC News Online. Cpl. Kevin Megeney died of a gunshot wound to the chest at Kandahar Airfield in 2007. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Canada



CSIS to be probed in Abdelrazik case

A government watchdog will launch an investigation into the alleged role the Canadian Security Intelligence Service played in the case of a Montreal man, left, who spent almost six years stranded in Sudan, CBC News Online reports. "We received a complaint from Mr. (Abousfian) Abdelrazik and we've accepted jurisdiction on that complaint," Steven Bittle, a senior adviser for the Security Intelligence Review Committee, confirmed on Thursday. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Prime Minister Stephen Harper speaks during a news conference at a community centre in Adstock, Que., Thursday.

PM cautious about recovery

RECESSION With nearly 800,000 Canadians collecting pokey and no end in sight to the jobs crisis, Prime Minister Stephen Harper is keeping his distance from those who say the recession is all but over. "I know there are some signs of optimism," he said yesterday in Adstock, Que. But, he said, "the so-called recovery at this point is extremely fragile."

Harper was speaking two days after Statistics Canada

reported that 778,000 Canadians collected employment insurance in May, the highest number in more than a decade.

Harper steered clear yesterday of agreeing with Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney that the economy would return to growth in the period from July to September.

Instead, he said governments must continue their economic stimulus activities. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Record deaths creating doubt

Questions arising over retainment of seized Afghan territory

In all of Afghanistan's fighting seasons, none has been as deadly as this one. Even NATO commanders have struggled to find new words to convey their grief as they cope with the worst month on record for coalition casualties.

News releases announcing the latest deaths arrive almost daily, expressing "great sorrow," "sincere condolences," "heartfelt condolences" and "deepest sympathies" to the families of the slain soldiers.

So far this month, 72 coalition soldiers — includ-

72

The number of coalition soldiers killed in July in Afghanistan.

ing five Canadians — have been killed, many as a result of offensive operations by British and American forces in southern Afghanistan to seize territory long under Taliban influence.

The previous monthly high was 46 last August, according to the website icasualties.org.

But will the International Security Assistance Force be able to hold these hard-won regions to ensure insurgents don't come back?

The answer will determine the fate of the mission and the future of the troubled nation, experts say. And it's a question sure to prompt new questions about the NATO military alliance and Canada's own pledge to withdraw its troops in 2011.

The offensive push in southern Afghanistan has taken troops into the "belly of the beast," so a rise in vio-

lence was expected, said Seth Jones, an expert on Afghanistan with Rand Corp., a U.S. think-tank.

But Jones questions whether coalition forces have enough troops to ensure a long-term presence in these newly seized territories.

"It's hard to know what the long-term commitment is going to be ... I really don't see the numbers from either NATO or Afghan national security forces for this size territory."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

INVESTIGATION EnCana Corp. doubled Thursday its reward to \$1 million to catch a bomber who is demanding the firm

shut down its natural gas facilities in northeastern British Columbia. The company will also let workers and contractors

qualify for the money, a change that may signal that police investigators are shifting their ideas about who is

responsible for the blasts, according to an expert on eco-terrorism. **REUTERS**

Dazed And Confused

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Dog finds its way home — after nine years

A microchipped dog rescued from a squalid backyard in Melbourne, Australia, is to be reunited with her owners 1,600 kilometres away, nine years after she disappeared. **REUTERS**

5

World

Iranian police fire tear gas at protesters

Baton-wielding Iranian police fired tear gas Thursday and arrested protesters mourning the young woman who has become a symbol for the opposition to Tehran's hardline leaders.

The death of Neda Agha-Soltan, killed in post-election violence on June 20, was captured on video and has been seen by hundreds of thousands on the Internet.

The renewed protests show the opposition refuses to be quelled or accept the June 12 hardline election victory despite a security crackdown and hundreds of arrests.

"There are thousands of people chanting slogans in favour of Mousavi."

Tehran witness

Clashes erupted Thursday after hundreds of supporters of opposition leader Mirhossein Mousavi gathered to mourn Agha-Soltan.

At least 300 mourners were at a ceremony for the 26-year-old music student at Tehran's Behesht-e Zahra cemetery.

They greeted the opposi-

tion leader with chants of "Mousavi we support you" and clung to his car as he arrived, a witness said.

Police forced Mousavi to return to his car and leave. Many hundreds later tried to move toward the Grand Mosala, a major prayer venue in central Tehran.

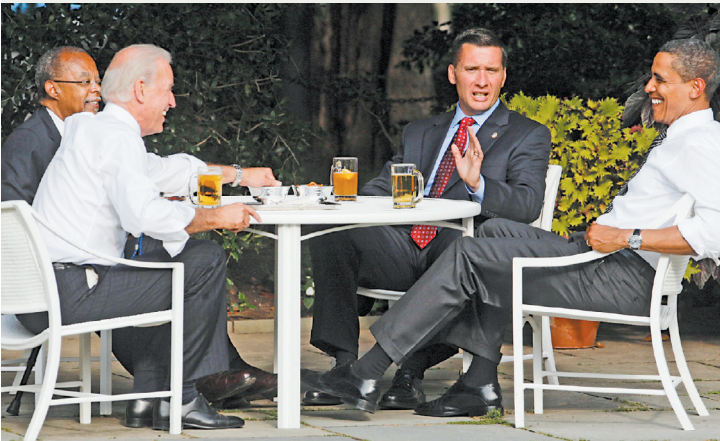
But police were deployed in force there.

"There are thousands of people chanting slogans in favour of Mousavi," a witness said.

"Hundreds of riot police around Mosala and nearby streets are trying to disperse them."

REUTERS

White House No hard feelings, have a beer



U.S. President Barack Obama has a beer with Harvard scholar Henry Louis Gates, far left, police Sergeant James Crowley, second right, and Vice-President Joe Biden at the White House on Thursday. Crowley arrested Gates while investigating a burglary report. Obama inflamed tensions by saying police had "acted stupidly," later backing down from the remark.

British MS sufferer wins legal victory on suicide

DEATH A multiple sclerosis sufferer who feared her husband would be prosecuted if she went abroad to end her life won a legal victory Thursday.

Debbie Purdy had set out to force the British government to clarify the law on assisted suicide.

British law says helping someone to commit suicide is a crime that carries a maximum sentence of 14 years in prison.

But since 1992, about 100 Britons have ended their lives at the Dignitas facility in Switzerland — where assisted suicide is legal — without their relatives being prosecuted.

On Thursday, Britain's House of Lords, the highest court in the country, unanimously ruled that failure to clarify the law infringed on wheelchair-bound Purdy's human rights.

REUTERS

Fiery sect chief held in Nigeria

UNREST Security forces in northern Nigeria on Thursday captured Mohammed Yusuf, leader of the militant Islamic sect Boko Haram responsible for days of unrest that have killed more than 180 people and displaced thousands. Boko Haram wants a wider adoption of sharia (Islamic law) across Africa's most populous nation. Police said Yusuf was being held in the northern city of Maiduguri.

REUTERS

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Comment & Views

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Comment

Fearless, inspiring heroes



Mona Eltahawy
Global View

ina Turner was wrong — we do need another hero. Especially fearless women.

As a special gift for my 42nd birthday I met two such women in Kuala Lumpur, where we were attending the Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality and Equality (WISE), a program aimed at improving the status of Muslim women worldwide.

Seyran Ates, 46, a lawyer and women's rights advocate, was born in Istanbul and has lived in Germany since her family moved there when she was six. She ran away from home at 17 to escape patriarchal traditions and sought refuge in a shelter for battered women.

When she was 21 and liv-

ing at a women's centre, young men of Turkish descent broke in and started firing guns. Ates was shot in the throat and almost

bled to death. The woman next to her was killed.

Two years ago, as she was about to enter a Berlin courtroom with a client filing for divorce, the husband assaulted the two women. That attack, as well as direct threats against her infant daughter, have persuaded Ates — a single mother who is open about the fact that she never married her daughter's father — to close her legal practice.

She continues to fight for women in other ways. She's written several books condemning political Islamic organizations for

their misogyny, the right wing in Europe for its racism and hatred, and the left wing for its silence over the violations of Muslim women's rights.

Her latest book is called *Islam Needs A Sexual Revolution*. I can't wait for its English translation.

All I can tell you about my second new hero is she is Iranian. Anything else could jeopardize her safety.

Her life has closely mirrored Iran's ebbs and flows since its 1979 revolution. She was a teenage supporter of that revolution. As a conservative young woman who chose a headscarf she supported its Islamic aspects, which eventually pushed aside the other political strands that had united against the Shah.

"I, too, had been a more conservative, headscarf-wearing teenager and it was comforting to trace our parallel moves away from orthodox interpretations of Islam."

But within a decade she became disillusioned with Iran's direction and embraced instead her country's feminist movement. I, too, had been a more conservative, headscarf-wearing teenager and it was comforting to trace our parallel moves away from orthodox interpretations of Islam.

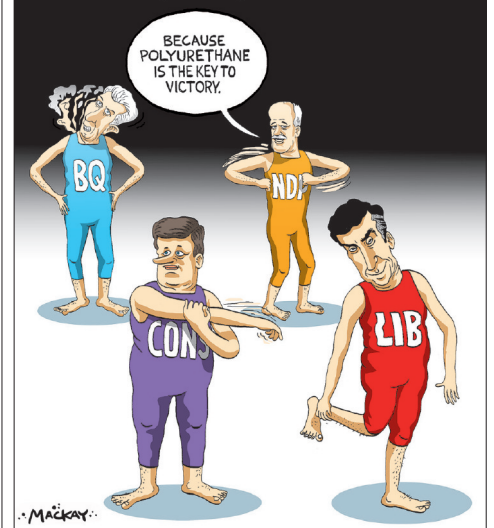
They tried to kill Ates twice. They imprisoned my Iranian hero twice.

Solitary confinement was "like death," she said, and only her spirituality saved her. She is now a "backpack activist" — the regime shut down her organization's office — and creates online a space activists don't have in the "real world."

With women like Ates and my Iranian hero around, we're well on our way to being wise, indeed.

Mona Eltahawy is an award-winning Egyptian-born commentator and public speaker on Arab and Muslim issues.

QUESTIONABLE PERFORMANCE ENHANCING ATTIRE HAS EMERGED BEYOND THE SWIMMING POOL...



Worth mentioning

East German Stasi feared Jackson's 1988 concert

Communist East Germany's secret police saw Michael Jackson as a security threat, fearing his 1988 concert next to the Berlin Wall would spark protests, new archive findings showed Thursday.

At a time of rising discontent in East Germany, the Stasi was worried youngsters would try to crash through security barriers to listen to the concert on the other side of the wall, which had separated East and West Berlin since 1961.

"They were concerned disident youths would call

for the wall to fall," Steffen Mayer, a spokesman for the government agency that looks after the Stasi archives, told Reuters.

"This was seen as a potential security threat given the amount of foreign media that would be present."

The Berlin Wall, which symbolized the division between the West and the Communist world, fell little more than a year later, in an era of change triggered by reforms of former Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev.

REUTERS

Michael Jackson

Metro Online Poll Results

75% SAID YES

Do you think a priority list is a fair way to distribute flu vaccine?

25% SAID NO

Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca

Views

Long hotdog, you're no Peace Bridge

Urban Compass



Janice Paskey
metronews.ca/paskey

The design is out of the closet. It's a long red-seared hotdog of a structure. That \$22-million pedestrian bridge approved by council earlier this year is now rising in price, and will traverse across the Bow River near Eau Claire Market.

The bridge's design was released this week. It has paths for walkers and cyclists. At the helm of the drawing table is Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava.

Oh, I had prayed those millions might net us something wonderful. Then the price could be justified. Admittedly, Calatrava

trava had a tough gig: The city won't allow any beams or structures in the river itself. It must spaaaaan.

A great design could have helped in the court of public opinion. Then, Calatrava could overlook the harsh fact that the bridge is altogether unnecessary. There are two other pedestrian bridges nearby at Kensington and at the Eau Claire Market.

Oh, I hoped! The disappointing design shows a long tubular structure with plexiglass cutouts and a criss-cross of red stripes. Red! Maybe this is a joke; it's our city's colourful take on a ribbed condom. Pleasure promised. Pleasure denied. It was all in the

marketing.

Then there's the name: Peace Bridge. There is a Peace Bridge. I grew up near it. And it's a beauty. The Peace Bridge (Canada

needs only one) spans the majestic Niagara River and connects Fort Erie, Ont., with Buffalo, N.Y. The Peace Bridge is the gateway to the Buffalo Bills, the NHL Sabres, chicken wings, and the Albright-Knox Museum. On grad night, we hopped between cars while waiting in line to pay the toll. Opened in 1927, the Peace Bridge marks a century of peace between Canada and the United States. Canadians and Americans worked on the concrete and steel marvel together.

As is, Calgary's footbridge reminds me of the now famous 1988 U.S. vice-presidential debate. That was when Lloyd Bentsen famously retorted to Dan Quayle: "Senator, I served with Jack Kennedy. I knew Jack Kennedy. Jack Kennedy was a friend of mine. Senator, you're no Jack Kennedy."

Now simply replace Jack Kennedy with "Peace Bridge." "City council, we've seen the Peace Bridge. We've marvelled at the Peace Bridge. We've taken pictures of the majestic arches of the Peace Bridge. Long hotdog spanning the Bow River, you're no Peace Bridge."

You will go down in history as just being wrong.

Janice Paskey teaches journalism at Mount Royal College, serves on her community association board and is a proud mom to two boys; calgaryletters@metronews.ca.

Tell us your views by email to calgaryletters@metronews.ca or comment on metronews.ca or on Twitter @metrocalgary

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Canada's dollar strengthened Thursday as upbeat economic data as well as higher commodities prices helped whet investor appetite. During the day, the Canadian dollar rose as high as \$1.0803 to the U.S. dollar, or 92.57 cents US, after two straight North American sessions of decline. **REUTERS**

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Business in brief

OIL Profits at Imperial Oil tumbled 81 per cent on lower energy prices, maintenance outages and weak refining re-

sults, the company said Thursday. Net income fell to \$209 million, from year-earlier \$1.15 billion. **REUTERS**

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Weak Q2 ends Petro-Can's run

CEO predicts tough times for refining after Suncor merger

Petro-Canada closed the curtain Thursday on more than three decades as a flagship oil company with a 95 per cent drop in profit and a warning that its refining business faces tough times for the rest of this year.

Set up in the mid-1970s by then-prime minister Pierre Trudeau as a window into an industry then dominated by U.S. companies, Petro-Canada is set to be merged into Suncor Energy Inc. on Saturday after a \$22.5-billion takeover.

Bureaucratic image

• Despite being privatized in the early 1990s, with Ottawa selling the last of its shares in 2004, Petro-Canada was never able to shake the perception

that it was a bureaucratic organization with a state-run mentality, FirstEnergy Capital Corp. analyst William Lacey said.

The deal closes amid weak conditions in the oil patch. Layoffs began this week, with an undisclosed number of senior executives being informed of their status in the new Suncor, which will be Canada's biggest oil com-

pany. The companies struck the deal in March as the industry struggled with falling commodity prices and the credit crunch.

In his last conference call with analysts and reporters to discuss Petro-

Canada's quarterly results, chief executive Ron Brenneman did not say how many employees would lose their jobs. The firms are aiming for \$300 million in annual cost savings.

"Our focus is more on working our way down through the various levels of the organization and trying to get to people as quickly as we can to provide some certainty about where their future lies," said Brenneman, who will be vice-chairman of the new entity. **REUTERS**

Ottawa Bank to auction \$3.5B in bonds



The Bank of Canada building is pictured in Ottawa Thursday. The Bank said it plans to auction off a total of \$3.5 billion of government of Canada bonds on Aug. 5 with a coupon of two per cent and maturing on Sept. 1, 2012.

Kellogg marks high quarterly earnings

FOOD Kellogg posted a higher-than-expected quarterly profit and raised its full-year earnings forecast Thursday as costs for energy and grains eased while price increases helped lift revenue.

The maker of Frosted Flakes and Pop-Tarts has seen an increase in sales as consumers eat more at home. Kellogg also raised prices to cope with higher costs for raw materials.

The company said it expects commodity costs to rise about four per cent for the year, but down from the 10 per cent rise seen in 2008. Even when costs were soaring, Kellogg still invested in product development, cost-cutting measures and advertising to help its long-term business. **REUTERS**

MasterCard, Visa profits beat forecasts

CREDIT MasterCard Inc., the world's second-largest credit card network, reported better-than-expected quarterly earnings Thursday as it raised fees charged to banks and cut expenses, sending its shares up 6.5 per cent.

The company's larger rival, Visa, also reported better-than-expected quarterly earnings on Wednesday. But MasterCard chief financial executive Robert Selander said the downturn in consumer spending would make it difficult for the company to meet its target of average annual revenue growth of 12 per cent to 15 per cent in 2009-



11. "We don't expect the economic slowdown across the world will improve until sometime next year," Selander said in a conference call with analysts.

MasterCard's second-quarter net income was \$349 million US, or \$2.67

per share, compared with a loss of \$747 million, or \$5.70 per share, a year earlier.

Visa had reported better-than-expected quarterly earnings on Wednesday, as the world's largest credit card network cut expenses and credit-strapped consumers used their debit cards more.

The company also forecast revenue would grow more than expected in the fourth quarter helped by a recovery in the number of transactions.

Visa's net income rose 73 per cent to \$729 million US for the quarter ended June 30. **REUTERS**

Barrick Gold sees mining costs falling

GOLD Barrick Gold Corp. reported a strong quarterly net profit Thursday, giving shares a boost, while its chief executive forecast lower mining costs in the quarters ahead.

The company, the world's largest gold producer, maintained its production forecasts for 2009 and 2010 and said development projects were progressing on schedule.

Barrick CEO Aaron Regent said lower commodity prices, looser labor markets and new lower-cost mines should reverse a trend of rising costs. **REUTERS**

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FC Nordsjaelland defender Jonathan Richter woke up from an induced coma Thursday, 10 days after he was struck by lightning during a reserve soccer game. Doctors said the reaction was "a good sign," but added it was too early to say whether the 24-year-old Dane's brain had been damaged. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONews.CA



T.O. for breakfast

For Buffalo Bills fans who can't get enough of Terrell Owens, now they can have him for breakfast. Owens officially unveiled the breakfast cereal that bears his name, T.O.'s Honey Toasted Oats. The cereal is produced by Pittsburgh-based PLB Sports, which previously produced Flutie Flakes, when Doug Flutie was a Bills quarterback. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Rambo done for season

DAN TOTH
for Metro Calgary

Ken-Yon Rambo is finished for the season with a serious knee injury, but smart money is betting the Calgary Stampeders receiver makes a full recovery.

Rambo has suffered worse damage, like when he took a bullet in the back as a teenage gang member in Long Beach, Calif. Although the slug narrowly missed his spine, Rambo not only recovered, but went on to star at Ohio State before being drafted by the NFL's Oakland Raiders.

If resiliency and grit come into play, Rambo's got this wound licked.

"After coming off a great season last year and being the leading receiver in the CFL, I wanted to help the team get back to the Grey Cup this year," said Rambo, who led the CFL with more than 1,400 yards in receptions in 2008. "Unfortunately, I'm not going to play the rest of the season. You all know the extent of my injury."

Rambo will require an arthroscopic procedure next week to repair the meniscus, he'll then endure four weeks of rehab before undergoing another

CFL PREVIEW

Saskatchewan at Calgary



procedure to fix his ACL, but he's doing his best to cope with the setback. Though he won't play again in 2009, the fifth-year Stamp will remain with the team for the rest of the season.

"I can't wait to get this out of the way and get this rehab going and I can't wait till next year," said Rambo, 30.

"I'm very anxious. This is a whole new thing for me, I've never been injured to this high degree. I've never had any big knee injuries or anything like that, so this is going to be a little bit different. But my head is going to be into it. I'm a professional and I've been into it for nine years now, so I know what to bring to the table team-wise."

Considering all that Rambo's been through, it's hard to bet against him.

The Stamps, 2-2, host the Saskatchewan Roughriders Saturday, 7 p.m., at McMahon Stadium.

Swimming World record



Annamay Pierse of Vancouver reacts after setting a world record in the women's 200m breaststroke swimming semifinal at the World Championships Thursday in Rome.

Swimming's suit problem balloons

Field of Play

Scott Russell

metronews.ca/fieldofplay

Swimming has a problem. The new polyurethane suit, ubiquitous at the 13th World Championships in Rome, is leading to a bevy of records, but it doesn't fit the true spirit of competition.

Many sports have been through these choppy waters. Hockey's advances in padding and carbon fibre sticks have made the game faster, allowed harder hits and more dangerous shots. Modern tennis racquets and golf clubs have mammoth striking surfaces. But are the players in these games any more skilful?

That's why FINA, the international governing body of aquatic sport, is putting an end to the madness and declaring that as of 2010 the plastic flotation device, worn by most of the record breakers, will be going out of style.

There are few dissenters. A sense of embarrassment pervades in Rome. World records are tumbling mostly thanks to the skin suit.

Many believe FINA allowed its use here because the manufacturer of one model is a major sponsor of the meet. The athletes, some would argue, have been forced to cram them-

selves into the suits in order to keep pace — uncomfortable as that may be.

One Canadian team member marvelled at the poolside odour. "It smells like a kiddies birthday party — kind of like a bunch of balloons."

Indeed, that's what the swimmers look like when they come out of the water ... like a squadron of black balloons. They walk awkwardly and immediately unzip themselves so they can breathe again. They are so uneasy about wearing the suits that many accomplished stars like Libby Trickett of Australia black out the logo or use accreditation cards to cover it up during television interviews in order to protect their regular sponsors.

Most disturbing is the fact that Paul Biedermann of Germany, the man who has ended Michael Phelps domination in the pool by winning the 200-metre freestyle, faced few questions about his spectacular victory and dozens about his chosen swim apparel.

"I'm kind of sad the talk is all about the suit," Biedermann lamented. "For me it's all about the swimming and today I am the fastest."

It all leaves the whiff of something slightly spoiled.

Swimming is supposed to be about the race. Right now it's more about the suit. That will forever leave an asterisk on these World Championships.

Scott Russell is the Host of CBC Sports Weekend seen Saturday afternoons. He has covered professional and amateur sports including nine Olympic games and numerous world championships.

Sports in brief

KHL Russia's Kontinental Hockey League completed a contract with Detroit Red Wings forward Jiri Hudler on Thursday. The KHL registered Hudler's US\$10-million, two-year contract in Moscow.

SOCCER Bayern Munich turned down a bid of \$121.9 million from Real Madrid for its winger Franck Ribery, accord-

ing to a French newspaper. Ribery said earlier this month he'd like to play in Madrid.

BASEBALL Sluggers Manny Ramirez and David Ortiz, who helped the Boston Red Sox end an 86-year World Series title drought in 2004, tested positive for performance-enhancing drugs in 2003, The New York Times reported on

Thursday. Ortiz and Ramirez were among the 104 Major League Baseball players who tested positive in what was meant to be confidential testing, the Times said, citing unidentified lawyers with knowledge of the results.

GOLF Tiger Woods' British Open hangover continued at the Buick Open on Thursday as the world No. 1 laboured to an opening round one-under 71 on one of his favourite layouts.

OLYMPICS Organizers of next year's Winter Olympics in Vancouver, facing a potential budget crunch, said on Thursday they want employers to lend them up to 1,500 short-term workers for the Games. Similar worker-loan programs have been used in past Olympics, but organizers of the Games acknowledged their plan was bigger and said it reflected "the realities of the recession."

REUTERS

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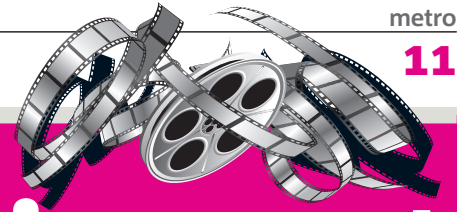
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11

Movies & Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

Wise guys

Pg 12



To divulge too much about Funny People's strange, meandering narrative would spoil the picture's many pleasures. Adam Sandler gives a career-best performance, our reviewer writes, in a movie that's much more than another sensitive guy romp.

Movies

Pg 13



Fifty Dead Men Walking
intense and breathtaking.

Music

Pg 16



The Decemberists throw critics, fans into a flurry.

Television

Pg 18



Soap opera, action, sci-fi ...
Just what is **Defying Gravity**?

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Movies

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It's funny, and art too

Funny People

Director: Judd Apatow

Stars: Adam Sandler, Seth Rogen

Classification: 14A

Rating: ●●●●½

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

Funny People's deceptively simple title speaks volumes about its content. On one hand, writer/director Judd Apatow's film is indeed filled with humorous humans of every persuasion. But underneath its lighthearted, laugh out loud exterior lurks a far darker, more complex treatise on how amusingly out of touch and lost we as a culture really are.

Apatow regular Seth Rogen plays a likeable shlub named Ira, a struggling stand up comedian in L.A. who, while waiting his turn on stage at a local club, encounters slumming Hollywood comedy legend



Seth Rogen, left, and Adam Sandler star in Funny People.

George Simmons (equally revered funnyman Adam Sandler, who gives a career best performance here).

Haunted and seemingly burned out, George takes a shine to Ira and invites him to work for him, writing jokes for his act and managing his day to day affairs.

Except, as it turns out, George is suffering from a rare blood disorder and

hasn't much time left to live.

As Ira becomes his idol's disciple — and, eventually, friend — a twist of fate steers their "bromantic" bond in an unexpected direction, leading to an almost surreal final hour that introduces George's sexy ex-lover Laura (Leslie Mann) and her macho Aussie hubby Clarke (Eric Bana).

On the web

For movie photos, trailers and screen times — or to buy tickets — visit metronews.ca/movies.

To divulge any more about Funny People's strange, meandering narrative would spoil the picture's many pleasures, chief among them that the audience has absolutely no idea where it's going at any given time.

This is Apatow's masterpiece: A hilarious, poignant observational film that's closer to vintage Woody Allen than anything that's ever bore his crowd pleasing brand before.

Filled with the expected raunchy dialogue, nudity and penis jokes — but laced with a bitter cynicism — Funny People isn't just another sensitive guy romp, it's the modern comedy as an artform ... and one of the best movies of the year so far.

Humpday hits mark

Humpday

Director: Lynn Shelton

Stars: Mark Duplass, Joshua Leonard

Classification: STC

Rating: ●●●●

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

REVIEW Have you ever made a pact with someone you instantly regretted? Did you ever feel innately obligated to carry through on that contract at whatever cost? If so, you probably still have nothing on the characters in Humpday.

When a bearded bohemian (Joshua Leonard) suddenly pops back into the settled life of his now-married college pal (Mark Duplass), the pair find themselves at an impromptu party where the topic turns to Humpfest, an amateur porn festival (which actually exists!).

Inebriated and not thinking clearly, the duo agrees to participate in the ultimate art film — two

straight dudes having sex. It's not gay, we're told, it's "beyond gay."

In a traditional comedy, this is where the movie would begin to overstate the protagonists' heterosexuality to coerce all sorts of situational gags, Three's Company-style.

However, filmmaker Lynn Shelton is luckily more concerned with exploring the inner battles of insecurity, identity and the insanity of the male ego.

As the film builds toward the uncertainty of the climax, Shelton expertly captures both characters' struggle with self-conceptions and their own male stubbornness.

Heavily improvised, the performances are convincing, powerful and provide this comedy the gravitas and subtle charm it needs to hurdle over its own high-concept.

Simply put, Humpday successfully takes the male-comedy to places that films like I Love You, Man dare not go.

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Star power to the max at Venice fest

Organizers of the Venice film festival in the Italian city of canals announced a roster of films and film stars aimed at drawing maximum buzz, with possible appearances including Ewan McGregor, Kevin Spacey, Viggo Mortensen and Charlize Theron. **PEOPLE.COM**

Movies

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

Duo brighten up Days of Summer

(500) Days of Summer

Director: Marc Webb

Stars: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Zoëy Deschanel

Classification: STC

Rating: ●●●●●

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News



REVIEW It seems preposterous that the only thing a relationship movie has to do to seem original and inventive is tell the story from the guy's perspective, but that's Hollywood.

The audience gets the guy's perspective and more in (500) Days of Summer, thanks to a non-linear storytelling structure that recounts a love affair far more effectively than a chronological retelling ever could.

First-time director Marc Webb pulls out as many stops as he can think of, tossing in homages to classic films, a precocious

youngster dispensing relationship advice, animation and one inspired musical sequence sure to make Hall and Oates popular with a whole new generation of fans.

But what's most impressive is that with all vintage sneakers and ironic detachment set to a Smiths-heavy soundtrack, the movie doesn't fall off into a twee abyss.

For that, primary credit goes to the lead actors. As the titular Summer, Zoëy Deschanel does great work playing the idealized indie girlfriend — "quirky" seems too dismissive.

But the real star here is Joseph Gordon-Levitt, who has been quietly building an impressive dramatic resume in films like Brick and Mysterious Skin.

Here, he comes into his own as a full-fledged leading man, making even self-indulgent moping seem compelling.

An intense experience

Fifty Dead Men Walking

Director: Kari Skogland

Stars: Jim Sturgess, Ben Kingsley

Classification: STC

Rating: ●●●●●

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada



By her own admission, writer/director Kari Skogland took several liberties with Fifty Dead Men Walking, her filmed adaptation of political informant Martin McGartland's autobiography.

But, really, that's OK. Movies are meant to be an impression of reality, and by the time Skogland's white knuckle picture fades to black, we feel like we've sprinted a mile in McGartland's blood-stained shoes just the same.

The film begins in the wilds of northern Canada, with a grizzled, bearded McGartland (21's Jim Sturgess) fending off a bru-



Jim Sturgess stars in Fifty Dead Men Walking.

tal attack by a masked gunman that leaves him bullet riddled and gasping for life. As the camera settles on his wide eyes, we are thrust 11 years into the past with a younger, freewheeling McGartland running around Belfast as the tensions related to "the troubles" escalate around him.

Soon, McGartland finds himself embroiled in the machinations of the IRA

and assumes the role of informer for British Intelligence (exemplified by Sir Ben Kingsley as McGartland's smooth U.K. contact). As McGartland gets deeper into his double life, tensions mount and it's only a matter of time before his violent, IRA associates discover the truth of his deception.

Some critics have complained that the film is far

too "entertaining" to suit the grim subject matter, and that politics take a back seat to the director's glossy cinematic conceits. Make no mistake; Fifty Dead Men Walking is a rollicking, full throttle entertainment, as vital a thriller as it is a gut-wrenching melodrama.

But its accessibility never once betrays the bitter reality of its brutal backdrop. We never once feel removed from the IRA/Unionist conflicts and their devastating effect on the Northern Irish populace.

What Skogland has wisely chosen to do, however, is focus her narrative squarely on McGartland's stranger-than-fiction story and, in turn, on Sturgess' breathtaking performance. There's a level of ferocity on display here that none of the young actor's previous roles even hint at. This is Oscar calibre stuff all the way.

• For Fifty Dead Men Walking photos, a trailer and screen times, or for tickets, visit metronews.ca/movies

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For Theatres and Showtimes:

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Matt Sullivan, IN TOUCH WEEKLY

Katherine HEIGL

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the ugly truth

COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH RELATIVITY MEDIA A LAKESHORE ENTERTAINMENT/STEVEN REUTHER PRODUCTION A ROBERT LUKETIC FILM "THE UGLY TRUTH" ERIC WINTER JOHN MICHAEL HIGGINS NICK SCARFY WITH KEVIN CONNOLLY AND CHERYL HINES WRITTEN BY ARON ZEMAN PRODUCED BY ANDRE LAMAL ERIC WINTER KATHERINE HEIGL NANCY HEIGL KAREN MACCOLLAR LUTZ KRISTEN SMITH RYAN KIRKMAN COSTUME DESIGNER NICOLE EASTMAN BASED UPON THE PLAY BY MICHELE CASTMAN AND KAREN MACCOLLAR LUTZ & KRISTEN SMITH PRODUCED BY STEVEN REUTHER KIMBERLY & DONALD VENTURA EDITOR JEFF WEINBERG PRODUCTION DESIGNER TIM ROSENBERG DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY BARRY LUCCHESI EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ROBERT LUKETIC



NOW PLAYING Check Theatre Directory or SonyPicturesReleasing.ca for Locations and Showtimes

Screen Times

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., JULY 31 TO THURS., AUG. 6. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

CANYON MEADOWS

Bay 110 13226 Macleod Trail,
403-670-5444

Angels & Demons (14A) Fri-Thru 12:45-3:45 6:50-9:35
Ghosts of Girlfriends Past (PG) Fri-Thru 4:15-6:45
Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) Fri-Thru 12:50
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) Fri-Thru 12:55
My Life in Ruins (PG) Fri-Thru 12:03-5:57-9:55
My Sister's Keeper (14A) Fri-Thru 1:15-3:40-7:20-9:50
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri-Thru 1:30-4:05-7:10-9:50
The Soloist (PG) Fri-Thru 3:30-7:15-9:45
Star Trek (PG) Fri-Thru 1:47-9:45
The Taking of Pelham 123 (14A) Fri-Thru 1:25-4:10-7:05-10:05
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri-Thru 3:50-6:55-10
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (14A) Fri-Thru 1:05-9:40
Year One (14A) Fri-Thru 1:10-3:25-7:30-10:10

CROWFOOT CROSSING

91 Crowfoot Terrace, 403-547-3316

Aliens in the Attic (PG) No Passes Fri-Thru 11:45-2:40-6:40-9:20
Brüno (18A) Fri-Thru 3:20-10:20
Funny People (18A) No Passes Fri-Thru 12:30-6:50-10:25
G-Force in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thru 11:40-2:30-5:30-9:45
The Hangover (18A) Fri-Thru 12:10-2:45-5:10-7:40-10:10
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) No Passes Fri-Thru 11:30-12:50-3:40-6:30-9:10
Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (G) Fri-Thru 12:40-3:15-7:30-10:30
Orphan (18A) Fri-Thru 1:20-4:37-7:50-10:30
The Proposal (PG) Fri-Thru 1:10-4:10-7:15-10:05
Public Enemies (14A) Fri-Thru 11:50-7:10
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG) Fri-Thru 12:30-3:50-6:55-10:15

The Ugly Truth (14A) Fri-Tue 1:35-5:27-9:50 Wed 3:55-7:20-9:50 Thu 1:35-5:27-9:50 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1

EAU CLAIRE MARKET

200 Barlay Parade, 403-263-3166

(500) Days of Summer (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:45-7:45-10:30 Mon-Thru 3:45-7:45-10:30
Brüno (18A) Fri-Thru 2:45-9:40
Funny People (18A) No Passes Fri-Sun 11:45-3:15-6:45-10
The Hangover (18A) Fri-Sun 12:15-7:15 Mon-Thru 7:15
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) No Passes Fri-Sun 11:30-3:30-6:30-9:50 No Passes Mon-Thru 3:30-9:50
The Hurt Locker (14A) Fri-Sun 12:30-7:10 Mon-Thru 3:30-7:10
The Ugly Truth (14A) Fri-Sun 12:45-4:30-10:20 Mon-Thru 4:30-10:20

EMPIRE STUDIO 16

COUNTRY HILLS

388 Country Hills Blvd., 403-686-8491

Aliens in the Attic (PG) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thru 11:50-3:10-6:45-9:15
Brüno (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thru 10:25
Funny People (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thru 12:05-12:35-3:15-3:50-6:45-7:15-10:10
G-Force (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Sun 11:45-2:35-9:10 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thru 11:45-2:35-9:10
G-Force in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 12:15-2:30-4:40-7:10-9:40 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Sun 12:15-2:30-4:40-7:10-9:40 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Wed 12:15-2:30-4:40-7:10-9:40 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 12:15-2:30-4:40-7:10
G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra (14A) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 11:55 (midnight)
The Hangover (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 2:40-7:15-9:40-11:45 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-

Thru 2:40-7:15-9:40
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Mon 11:30-12:12-5:30-4:30-6:40-7:10-8:10 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Tue-Thru 11:30-12:12-5:30-4:30-6:40-7:10-8:10
Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs 3D (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thru 12:10-3:7:05-9:30
Love Aaj Kal (STC) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thru 12:50-4:7:25-10:20
The Proposal (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thru 12:50-4:7:25-10:20
Public Enemies (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:20-4:15-7:25-10:15 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thru 12:30-3:25-6:50-9:50
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sun 11:55-3:05-6:55-10:10 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Mon-Thru 11:55-3:05-6:55-10:10
The Ugly Truth (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Sat 1:15-3:40-7:30-9:50-11:50 SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Sun-Thru 1:15-3:40-7:30-9:55

EMPIRE STUDIO 10

MACLEOD TRAIL

100-16061 Macleod Trail, 403-974-0470
Aliens in the Attic (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thru 1:15-3:40-6:50-9:15
Funny People (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thru 12:30-3:50-7:15-10:30
G-Force in Disney Digital 3D (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, Digital Presentation, No Passes Fri-Thru 1:45-4:7:30
G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Thu 11:59 (midnight)
The Hangover (18A) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Wed 2:40-7:20-10:20 DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 2:40-7:20-10:20
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating

ing, No Passes Fri-Thru 11:45-12:45-3:10-4:20-6:40-8:10-10
Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs 3D (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, Digital Presentation Fri-Thru 1:30-4:10-6:45-9
The Proposal (PG) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thru 12:15-3:7:10-9:45
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thru 12:30-2:30-6:30-9:50
The Ugly Truth (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thru 1:30-7:30-10:10
GLOBE CINEMA
 617-8 Avenue, 403-262-3308
Fifty Dead Men Walking (14A) Fri 7:20-9:20 Sat 1:30-7:20-9:20 Tue-Thru 7:20-9:20
Humpday (18A) Fri 7:10-9:15 Sat-Mon 1:10-3:15-7:10-9:15 Tue-Thru 7:10-9:15

MOVIEDOME

1039 999 36 St., 403-248-2000

Angels & Demons (14A) Fri-Thru 1:30-7:30
Land of the Lost (PG) Fri-Thru 1:05-3:45-7
Luck (14A) Fri-Thru 2:60-9:15
Monsters vs. Aliens (G) Fri-Thru 12:55-3:50
New York (14A) Fri-Thru 9:30
Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) Fri-Thru 12:50-3:40-6:50-9:45
Star Trek (PG) Fri-Thru 12:45-3:55-6:45-9:40
The Taking of Pelham 123 (14A) Fri-Thru 1:33-5:45-9:50
Terminator Salvation (14A) Fri-Thru 12:45-3:35-6:45-9:50
X-Men Origins: Wolverine (14A) Fri-Thru 6:55-9:55
Year One (14A) Fri-Thru 1:10-4:10-7:10-10:05

SCOTIABANK CHINOOK

6455 Macleod Trail, 403-212-8994

Aliens in the Attic (PG) No Passes Fri-Thru 11:45-2:15-5:15-9:50
Brüno (18A) Fri-Thru 12:20-2:40-5:05-7:35-10 Wed 12:20-2:40-5:05-7:35 Thu 12:20-2:40-5:05-7:35-10
Funny People (18A) No Passes Fri-Thru 12:10-3:15-7:10-10:15 No Passes Fri-Thru 12:30-3:40-7:20-10:30

G-Force (G) No Passes Fri-Thru 1:40-5:7-10:10
G-Force in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thru 12:30-2:50-5:15-7:45-10:20
The Hangover (18A) Fri-Thru 1:15-4:20-7:25-10:15
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) No Passes Fri-Thru 12:34:57-05:10:30
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince: The IMAX Experience (PG) No Passes Fri-Thru 11:45:31:56-45:10:15
The Hurt Locker (14A) Fri-Thru 12:05-3:30-7:10-10:25
Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs 3D (G) Fri-Thru 11:30-2:40-3:70-10-9:40
Orphan (18A) Fri-Thru 1:20-4:30-7:35-10:30
The Proposal (PG) Fri-Thru 12:55:3:45-7:05-10:05
Public Enemies (14A) Fri-Thru 12:45:4:05-7:20-10:25
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG) Fri-Thru 11:30-3:30-6:30-9:45
The Ugly Truth (14A) Fri-Wed 12:10-2:50-5:20-8:10-35 Thu 5:20-8:10-35 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Up in Disney Digital 3D (G) Fri-Thru 11:40-2:05-4:40-7:15-10

PLAZA THEATRE

1133 Kensington Rd., 403-283-3636

The Blair Witch Project (STC) Fri 11:45-11:45 Mon 5
Departures (PG) Fri 6:50-9:20 Sat 4:20-6:50-9:20 Sun-Mon 12:20-3:50-6:50-9:20 Tue 6:50-9:20 Wed 9:20 Thu 6:50
Drag Me to Hell (14A) Fri 4:50 Sat 11:45 Sun 4:50
Pray the Devil Back to Hell (STC) Wed 7
Zombie (STC) Thu 9:30

SUNRIDGE SPECTRUM

2555 32nd Street, 403-717-1200

Aliens in the Attic (PG) No Passes Fri-Thru 11:55-2:15-4:45-7:10-9:30
Funny People (18A) No Passes Fri-Thru 12:05-12:30-3:25-5:57-7:30-10:25
G-Force in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thru 11:45-2:40-3:65-9:25
The Hangover (18A) Fri-Tue 12:10-3:05-7:25-9:55

7:25-9:55 Wed 12:10-3:05-9:55 Thu 12:10-3:05-7:25-9:55
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) No Passes Fri-Thru 11:30-12:40-3:40-6:30-7:35-10
Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs 3D (G) Fri-Thru 11:50-2:25-5:7-40-10:10
Love Aaj Kal (Hindi w/e.s.t.) (STC) Fri-Thru 12:25-3:50-7:05-10:10
Orphan (18A) Fri-Thru 12:20-3:45-7:15-10:15
The Proposal (PG) Fri-Thru 12:45-3:40-6:50-9:35
Public Enemies (14A) Fri-Thru 3:20-7:20-10:30
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG) Fri-Thru 11:40-3:10-6:40-10:05
The Ugly Truth (14A) Fri-Tue 12:24:05-10:7:45-10:20 Wed 12:24:05-10:7:45-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Up (G) Fri-Thru 12:50

THE UPTOWN STAGE & SCREEN

612 8th Ave., 403-265-0120

Food, Inc. (PG) Fri 4:50-7:9 Sat-Mon 2:20-4:50-7:9 Tue-Thru 4:50-7:9
Moon (14A) Fri-Thru 4:40-9:10
Summer Hours (STC) Fri 6:45 Sat-Mon 2:30-6:45 Tue-Thru 6:45

WESTHILLS 10

165 Stewart Green, 403-246-5291

Aliens in the Attic (PG) No Passes Fri-Thru 12:10-2:20-4:30-6:50-9:20
Funny People (18A) No Passes Fri-Thru 12:30-3:45-7:10-10
G-Force in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thru 12:10-2:10-4:40-7:10-9:30
The Hangover (18A) Fri-Thru 12:35-3:35-7:40-10:10
Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (PG) No Passes Fri-Thru 11:50-3:10-6:30-9:50
Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (G) Fri-Thru 12:45-3:50-6:40-9:10
The Proposal (PG) Fri-Thru 12:15-3:7-10-10
The Ugly Truth (14A) Fri-Thru 12:55-4:7-20-9:40

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Departures is long, but rewarding

Departures

Director: Yojiro Takita

Stars: Masahiro Motoki

Classification: STC

Rating: ⓈⓈⓈⓈ

NED EHRBAR

Metro World News

REVIEW A quiet, sentimental film exploring life and death, familial bonds and tradition, *Departures* seduces with gorgeous landscapes, meditative performances and ample doses of comedy.

Though longer than it needs to be and more than a bit predictable, the film is

no less affecting. Whether it deserved the Oscar for best foreign language film, however, is up for debate.

Cellist Daigo (Masahiro Motoki) finds himself out on the street after the orchestra he plays for is dissolved. At a loss, he packs up his patient wife and moves from the big city back to his small hometown, taking over his late mother's house.

Thanks to a typo in a classified ad, Daigo finds himself taking the only job he can find: Working as an "encoffiner," cleaning and dressing the recently deceased in an age-old but lit-

A scene from Yojiro Takita's film *Departures*.

tle-known Japanese ceremony. The job understandably takes some getting used to.

While dealing with death on a daily basis and suffering the insults and judgments of those closest to him, Daigo eventually must

face the ghosts of his past. That the metaphors are obvious doesn't make them any less successful, and Daigo's emotional journey satisfies. The only real problem is he and the film take so long to get to the point.

Adam Sandler Seth Rogen Leslie Mann

FUNNY PEOPLE

UNIVERSAL PICTURES and COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH RELATIVITY MEDIA AN APATOW/MADISON 23 PRODUCTION A JUDU APATOW FILM ADAM SANDLER SETH ROGEN LESLIE MANN "FUNNY PEOPLE" ERIC BANA JONAH HILL JASON SCHWARTZMAN MUSIC BY JASON SCHWARTZMAN MICHAEL ANDREWS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS SETH ROGEN EVAN GOLDBERG JACK GIARRAPUTO PRODUCED BY JUDU APATOW CLAYTON TOWNSEND BARRY MENDEL COLUMBIA PICTURES SOUNDTRACK ON CONCORD RECORDS www.funnypeoplemovie.com WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY JUDU APATOW A UNIVERSAL PICTURE © 2009 UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

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Music

The hazards of love

The Decemberists take an unusual musical departure

BRIAN COULTON
for Metro Canada

Unexpected musical pairings don't always fly when they're first realized.

There are those, of course, that just never take off, and for good reason — like Scarlett Johansson and Tom Waits covers, or the embarrassing mid-'80s Bowie/Jagger collaboration. But others, like Wilco and eclectic experimentation on Yankee Hotel Foxtrot, and Alison Krauss-brand bluegrass with the Zeppelin rock vox of Robert Plant, however doubted, end aptly up in the musical stratosphere.

The Decemberists' latest album *The Hazards of Love* takes up company with the latter. In an unanticipated departure, the Portland, Ore., band divorces its spirited folk rock repertoire for a musically amalgamated concept album, initially intended as a stage musical.

The album recalls the tale of a lady called Margaret and her mystical, often sexual forest exploits. After falling in love with forest-dweller William, she comes under scrutiny by his mother, the Queen of the forest, who fails to cease Margaret's abduction by a dangerous villain, The Rake. William searches for and reunites with Margaret, and they reignite their love before dying, together.

Colin Meloy, singer and songwriter for the band, understands the risk of taking such a conceptual diversion, but says the album's just not intended for everybody. "I can totally understand why this record would not be to someone's taste. I knew from the very



The Decemberists' *Hazards of Love* was a concept album, initially intended as a stage musical.

beginning this was going to be a pretty polarizing record and that some people would hate it and some people will love it."

Hazards has polarized the critics, that have produced largely mixed reviews of the album. But Meloy maintains his band is just a quick and easy target because of the early praise it's garnered. And estranging critics or The Decemberists' fans is fine by Meloy. "If we do alienate people, they would be the sort of people that would be restricting our creativity to begin with."

It's all part of the solid precedent he says the band has set for itself. "People are welcome to come along," he says, "But we're going to be doing what we

"If we do alienate people, they would be the sort of people that would be restricting our creativity to begin with."

Colin Meloy

want and not kowtowing to accessibility or tastes."

Non-conformity is as present in *Hazards*' format as its sound. Added to the folk music the band is noted for, there are sure signs of metal, progressive rock and hard rock on the album, a testament to Meloy's dissent against the tension between folk and metal.

"I think they're more akin than some people give them credit for, especially when you're dealing with classic metal from the '70s and the British folk revival," he says. "At that time, metal and folk music were these sort of weird bastard cousins, walking around hand in hand."

Similarly smitten should be an artist's work to their influences, says Meloy, no matter the expected reception. "Anybody writing songs and making music should be making music that is, in some way, the sum total of their record collection," he says.

"By and large, I feel like I'm making the music that I want to make and that I should make. I hope we can continue doing that."

Great books to dive into this summer vacation

SoundCheck

Alan Cross

metronews.ca/soundcheck

For most people across the country, this has been a dreary summer. Where I live, we've had exactly one day where the temperature has reached 30 C. New York had its coldest June since 1958. And a recent web posting from an Accu-Weather meteorologist

(<http://bit.ly/pmkYy>) cites more than 3,000 low-temperature records across North America in July.

This all explains why I'm off to Cuba tomorrow in search of some sun. I also need a week to catch up on my reading in preparation for the fall season of my radio show, *The Ongoing History of New Music*.

If you have some vacation time coming and you're looking for a few books on music, here are a few suggestions:

Perfecting Sound Forever: An Aural History of Recorded Music by Greg Milner (Faber and Faber): Not so much a history of recorded music, but a history of how we've tried to capture music perfectly. It's filled with anecdotes and fun history. I learned a lot. My favourite music book of the year so far.

Appetite for Self-Destruction: The Spectacular Crash of the Record Industry in the Digital Age by Steve Knopper (Faber and Faber): A breezy look at how the record industry was blindsided by Napster and everything that came after. Some excellent insight into various mistakes, miscalculations and "what if" scenarios.

narios.

Dirty Little Secrets of the Record Business: Why So Much Music You Hear Sucks by Hank Bordowitz (Chicago Review Press): An unabashedly biased look at the state of the American music industry. Bombastic in places and idealistic to the point of naïveté in others, but an interesting insider's peek into the business.

Ripped: How the Wired Generation Revolutionized Music by Greg Kot (Scribner): Just like the title says: How the music consumer went from paying \$17.99 for a CD to paying nothing at all in just ten years.

Unleashed: The Story of Tool by Joel McIver (Omnibus Press) With *Tool*, it's always been very difficult to separate the fact from the fiction and the truth from the mythology. McIver does his best with the first-ever biography of one of rock's most enigmatic bands.

Woodstock Vision: The Spirit of a Generation by Elliott Landy (Backbeat Books): With the 40th anniversary of Woodstock coming up, this reissued coffee table book is a nice looking piece of nostalgia.

The *Ongoing History of New Music* can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

TOP 10 RINGTONES

- 1 I Gotta Feeling Black Eyed Peas
- 2 I Know You Want Me Pitbull
- 3 Fire Burning Sean Kingston
- 4 Boom Boom Pow Black Eyed Peas
- 5 Birthday Sex Jeremih
- 6 One Time Justin Bieber
- 7 Day 'N Nite Kid Cudi
- 8 Thriller Michael Jackson
- 9 Knock You Down Keri Hilson
- 10 Papazzzi Lady Gaga

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A photograph of five women sitting around a dark, reflective table in a restaurant. They are all smiling and engaged in conversation. The woman on the far left is wearing a gold dress and holding a glass of white wine. The woman next to her is wearing a yellow cardigan over a striped top. The woman in the center is wearing a blue top and holding a drink with a straw. The woman next to her is wearing a grey top and holding a glass of red wine. The woman on the far right is wearing a white button-down shirt. There are plates of food on the table, and the background shows a modern restaurant interior with large windows and warm lighting.

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Television

Mixing kissing with spaceships

IAN JOHNSTON
for Metro Canada

Melrose Space. Grey's Astronomy. Lost ... In Space. For a TV show that has yet to air, Defying Gravity has a lot of nicknames. So what's it really about?

"It plays like a soap opera at times and like an action film at times and then its sci-fi," explains Defying Gravity star Ron Livingston (Sex In The City,

Office Space). "It wasn't all kissing and it wasn't all spaceships. There's kissing and spaceships."

More simply put, Defying Gravity was created by James Parriott (Grey's Anatomy) and concerns the future adventures of eight astronauts on a six-year mission to explore the nearest planets.

The show will follow them on the mission, while flashing back — a la Lost — to their training.

There's also a little alien mystery thrown in, plus frequent side trips into the inter-relationships between the crew members.

Livingston likens it to Battlestar Galactica, which

eventually became known as much for being a good drama, as a good sci-fi yarn.

"They (the producers) wanted to do a show that could embrace the grand scale — the epic proportions that space gives you," says Livingston. "But also be about the little mundane things — like how to fix your hair in zero gravity."

Actress Laura Harris (24,

Dead Like Me), who plays the dedicated, flighty scientist Barnes, says she was immediately sold on doing the show.

"It was totally unique and very exciting. The possibilities for plots were infinite."

Shot in Vancouver, Defying Gravity is a cross-border co-production between ABC and CTV. For The Surrey-raised Harris, it's a bit of a homecoming, albeit not the first.

Harris, who has been acting since she was five, cut her creative teeth on a bevy of sci-fi vehicles shot in Canada over the years, including The X-Files, Star-

gate, and The Dead Zone.

"I'm a big lover of the whole sci-fi geek thing, she confesses. "It's a great genre with no dramatic boundaries. And it's hard not to love fans who are so passionate about such dynamic storytelling."

But will Defying Gravity's mix of soapy drama and sci-fi resonate with the geek elite or just drive them away?

Livingston isn't worried. "I don't think you can pigeonhole people. Sci-fi fans don't look like the sci-fi fan we imagined 20 years ago. Sci-fi fans now can be a pretty 17-year-old girl."

CA	Vu SC	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
243 317 3 CFCN	Corner Gas	Hollywood	Criminal Minds			Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)		(10:02) Castle		News
- - 4 OMNI	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News			Surviving Sub. (Goode Family		The Simpsons King		Metropia
- 371 5 KKLY	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)		Wild Roses (DVS)		According-Jim	According-Jim	20/20
245 306 6 CBRT	Coronation St.	Jeopardy!	Air Force	Laughs		Mental "Do Over" (N)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
244 338 7 CICT	ET Canada	Entertainment	NUMB3RS (HDTV)			Departures		Out There	Out There	Your City
246 - 8 CKAL	Law & Order: SVU	Mantracker	Man Tracker			Ghost Whisperer (HDTV)		(10:02) Flashpoint		NUMB3RS
- 372 12 KREM	News	Hollywood	The Doctors			Bill Moyers Journal		NOW on PBS	Being Served	P.O.V.
- 374 14 KSPS	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Wash. Week	McLaughlin			Southland "Pilot"		Dateline NBC		
- 370 16 KHQ	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy!	Wheel-Fortune		Smarter Than a 5th Grader?		Mental "Do Over" (N)		News
- 373 22 KAYU	The Simpsons	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		fifth estate
502 390 15 CBC	CBC News: The National					Larry King Live (N)		Larry King Live		Cooper 360
500 500 29 CNN	Larry King Live (N)					CTV News Tonight		CTV News		CTV News
501 391 52 CTV	CTV News Tonight					CFL Football BC Lions at Hamilton		Boxing Friday Night Fights. (HDTV)		
400 400 21 TSN	CFL Football BC Lions at Hamilton					Tiger-Cats.	SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)			
408 418 27 net	Week-Baseball Jays					MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Oakland Athletics. (HDTV) (Live)				Sportsnet Con.
552 543 20 YTV	The Next Star 2 (N)					What a Girl Wants * (2003, Comedy-Drama), Colin Firth		Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Family Biz
557 541 39 FAM	Zoe 101	Jonas (N)				Sonny Chance Roxy Hunter: The Myth of the Mermaid		(10:02) Motocrossed (2001, Adventure)		
- - 18 CHTV	The Insider (N)	E News				The El True Hollywood Story		20/20 (HDTV)		CHCA News
603 561 25 FOOD	Bobby Flay	Chef Abroad				Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares		Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Bobby Flay
615 520 26 A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)					Criminal Minds "In Heat"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami
617 522 32 SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park				The Best Years (DVS)		Kenny-Spenny Kenny-Spenny		Trailer Park
500 505 35 DISC	American Loggers					Daily Planet		American Loggers		Handyman
628 584 43 SPIKE	(6) Lethal Weapon (1987, Action)					Lethal Weapon 2 *** (1989, Action) Mel Gibson, Joe Pesci				Lethal Weapon
522 516 45 HIST	Urban Legends	Urban Legends				Jurassic Fight Club		Urban Legends	Urban Legends	Ice Road Trck
581 566 102 MTV	The Real World					Cribs		16 and Pregnant "Maci"		True Love

CA	Vu SC	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
243 317 3 CFCN	W-Five (DVS)			Double Frame (2001, Suspense)	Daniel Baldwin. (DVS)			Law & Order: SVU		News
- - 4 OMNI	Omni News: Mandarin			Chinese Rest.	Word for Word	Red Sorghum *** (1988, Comedy-Drama) Gong Li, Jiu Ji.		Chinese Rest.		Chinese Rest.
- 371 5 KKLY	News	The Insider (N)		Entertainment Tonight		Red Eye *** (2005, Suspense) Rachel McAdams		Sexy Money		
245 306 6 CBRT	The Nature of Things			The Week the Women Went		Da Vinci's City Hall (HDTV)		Intelligence (DVS)		Lord of Rings
244 338 7 CICT	Doc "Happy Trails"			Doc		View of Terror (2003, Suspense) Shannon Doherty.		Doc		News Final (N)
246 - 8 CKAL	Easy Money			Murdoch Mysteries		Cold Case "Glory Days"		NUMB3RS (HDTV)		The City Show
- 372 12 KREM	News	Scrubs		Cold Case		The Civil War "The Cause: 1861"		Face the Ace (N)		LawOrd SVU
- 374 14 KSPS	The Lawrence Welk Show			Jack Benny	Time Goes By	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		America's Most Wanted		News
- 370 16 KHQ	News (N)	Judge Judy		CSI: NY "Zoo York"		Cops		Sat. Report	Mansbridge	Doc Zone
- 373 22 KAYU	House "Acceptance"			Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	CNN & Essence: Reclaiming the Dream		CNN & Essence: Reclaiming the Dream		Dynamic issues.
502 390 15 CBC	Sat. Report	Mansbridge		Doc Zone (HDTV)		News		CTV News		News
500 500 29 CNN	CNN & Essence: Reclaim.			Newsroom		Survive This	Adrenaline Proj	In Real Life		Prank Patrol
501 391 52 CTV	CTV News Weekend			News	CTV News	Zack & Cody	Han. Montana	The Bridges of Madison County *** (1995)		E News
400 400 21 TSN	CFL Football Saskatchewan Roughriders at Calgary Stampede. (HDTV) (Live)			MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Oakland Athletics. (HDTV) (Live)		Challenge		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		Next Food Star
408 418 27 net	Kid vs. Kat	League-Evil		Prank Patrol		The Sopranos		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		Alexander
552 543 20 YTV	7:01) Jonas	Latest Buzz		Suite Life	Zoe 101	Time and Again (2007, Drama) Brooke Burns.		Deadliest Catch		Destroyed
557 541 39 FAM	Out There	E News		Rich Poor		Cris Angel	Cris Angel	Deadliest Catch		Destroyed
603 561 25 FOOD	The Next Food Network Star			Kitchen Nightmares		Rocky IV *** (1985, Drama) Sylvester Stallone, Burt Young.		(9:03) Rocky V *** (1990, Drama)		American History X *** (1998, Drama)
615 520 26 A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)			CSI: Miami "Inside Out"		Destroyed		Guinea Pig		
617 522 32 SHOW	(5) The Last Templar * (2009, Adventure), Scott Foley			Destroyed		Guinea Pig				
500 505 35 DISC	Deadliest Catch			Destroyed		Guinea Pig				
628 584 43 SPIKE	Rocky IV *** (1985, Drama) Sylvester Stallone, Burt Young.			Destroyed		Guinea Pig				
522 516 45 HIST	Lost Intentions			Doomed-Karluk		Cribs		Cribs		MTV Live
581 566 102 MTV	MTV News			Cribs		Cribs		Cribs		MTV Live

CA	Vu SC	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
243 317 3 CFCN	Cold Case (HDTV)			Merlin "Excalibur" (N)		Defying Gravity "Pilot, Natural Selection" (N)				News
- - 4 OMNI	Without a Trace			King	Look I Cook	Bollywood Boulevard (DVS)		Rom Redux China		Touid Sehat
- 371 5 KKLY	News	Storm Stories		Funnies Home Videos		Ty's Great British Adventure		Defying Gravity "Pilot, Natural Selection"		
245 306 6 CBRT	Heartland (HDTV) (DVS)			Wild Hogs * (2007, Comedy) Tim Allen, Martin Lawrence.		CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		Doctor Who
244 338 7 CICT	16.9 Picture	American Dad		The Simpsons	Family Guy	Friends		Family Guy	The Simpsons	News Final (N)
246 - 8 CKAL	The T.O. Show			Friends	Hates Chris	Murdoch Mysteries		Royal Pains		Reviews
- 372 12 KREM	KREM 2 News at 6 (N)			60 Minutes (HDTV)		Big Brother 11 (N)		Cold Case (HDTV)		Without Trace
- 374 14 KSPS	Lark Rise to Candleford			Nature (DVS)		Masterpiece Mystery! (DVS)			West Coast	M-5
- 370 16 KHQ	News	Paid Program		Dateline NBC		Merlin "Excalibur" (N)		The Storm (2009, Suspense)		
- 373 22 KAYU	House "Love Hurts"			"Til Death	American Dad	The Simpsons		Family Guy	The Simpsons	News
502 390 15 CBC	CBC News: Sunday Night (N)			Marilyn, the Last Sessions		CNN & Essence: Reclaiming the Dream		CNN & Essence: Reclaiming the Dream		Dynamic issues.
500 500 29 CNN	CNN & Essence: Reclaim.			Newsroom		News		CTV News		State of Union
501 391 52 CTV	CTV News Weekend			News	CTV News	Motoring 2009		2008 World Series of Poker (HDTV)		Saturday Night Poker
400 400 21 TSN	Boxing Friday Night Fights.			SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		Sportsnet Connected		In Real Life "Dirty Jobs"		Adrenaline Proj
408 418 27 net	(6) MLB Baseball Seattle Mariners at Texas Rangers.					Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Hatching Pete (2009, Comedy)		
552 543 20 YTV	Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties ** (2006, Comedy)			Suite Life	Zoe 101	Zack & Cody	Han. Montana	Deal or No Deal		R. Richards
557 541 39 FAM	Inside Hollywood			Greatest Myst.	Greatest Myst.	Restaurant Makeover		Get on Plate	Food Detective	Iron Chef Am.
603 561 25 FOOD	Iron Chef America			Dinner: Impossible		Motley Crue 1980s metal band.		Gene Simmons Family Jewels		Gene Simmons
615 520 26 A&E	Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons		Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	The Guard "Waheguru"		Blood in the Water		Married... With
617 522 32 SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park						MANswers	MANswers	Married... With
500 505 35 DISC	Blood in the Water (N)							Gangs of New York *** (2002)		Cribs
628 584 43 SPIKE	DEA "Marijuana Grow House"			Jesse James Is a Dead Man						
522 516 45 HIST	Jurassic Fight Club			Jurassic Fight Club						
581 566 102 MTV	Cribs			Cribs		Cribs		Cribs		Cribs



Defying Gravity stars Laura Harris, left, and Ron Livingston.

Keaton gets sexual in new HBO comedy

FEMINIST COMEDY Diane Keaton is venturing into series television with a half-hour comedy at HBO. Written by Marti Noxon, the untitled project stars the Oscar winner as a feminist icon who attempts to reignite the movement by starting a sexually explicit magazine for women.

The comedy hails from Grady Twins Prods., a production company recently launched by Noxon and Dawn Parouse. Noxon, Parouse and Keaton are executive producing.

"We've come a long way since the Kinsey report; women are more sexual now," said Noxon, referring to Alfred Kinsey's controversial 1953 report Sexual Behavior in the Human Female.

Added Parouse: "There seems to be a new evolution of what women are sexually. Women are acting more like men sexually."

Noxon had carried the kernel of the idea for a show that touches upon feminism as long as she can remember.

She was 12 when her mother came out as a radical feminist and a lesbian and recalls juggling her mom's beliefs — which included the dismissal of leg shaving as "giving into patriarchy" — with her own interests.

"I wanted to be a gal, I was very interested in men, and I wanted to shave my legs," Noxon said.

She and Parouse bounced around the idea of a young feminist working at a porn magazine. The moment they decided to make the central character an older, Gloria Steinem-type feminist icon, it all fell into place.

They said Keaton was the first actress they thought of.

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20 movies&entertainment

Burn Notice gets another season

USA's summer hits Burn Notice and Royal Pains have both been picked up for additional seasons, according to The Hollywood Reporter. The pickups follow on the heels of sizzling numbers for both series. TVGUIDE.COM

Going Out

Metro's 7th Heaven: Metro taps what's hot right now

1 Jillian Harris & Ed Swiderski

COUPLE The first-ever Canadian star of The Bachelorette made her pick this week amid much media hoopla and we can already hear wedding bells. If People magazine is to be believed, the Vancouver-based restaurant designer and the tech consultant from Chicago can't seem to get enough of each other and are planning to tie the knot soon.



2 Funny People

FILM Will Judd Apatow's incredible run of hit comedies (The 40-Year-Old Virgin, Knocked Up) finally end? Movie forums are abuzz with anticipation about the director/producer's new dramedy on the lives of comedians. The nearly three-hour long film stars Adam Sandler and Seth Rogen.

3 Life on Mars (U.K. Version)

DVD Never mind the cancelled ABC series. Here's the original thing, available on DVD in North America for the first time. The acclaimed BBC cop-meets-sci-fi drama revolves around a Manchester investigator who gets into a car crash and apparently winds up in '70s Britain (is he dead or is he dreaming?).



4 Anjulie Persaud

ARTIST Her first video Boom has been blogged about by Kanye West and is getting major airplay on MTV. Already hailed as the new Nelly Furtado, the Oakville, Ont.-born songstress of Guyanese origin is the latest buzz girl of Canadian pop and expectations are sky high for her self-titled album, which comes out next week.

5 Twenties Girl: Sophie Kinsella

BOOK The chic-lit queen tries a light-hearted whodunit this time around. The story revolves around a young Brit named Lara Lington, her great-aunt Sadie and a missing necklace. But it isn't all detective work. There's plenty of laughter and uplifting moments to remind readers why they love the Shopaholic author in the first place.



6 Tin Man

SHOW Somewhere over the rainbow lies a darker side of Oz and that's where a modernized Dorothy (Zooey Deschanel) and pals head to in this TV remake of the classic. The series premieres tomorrow on Space.

7 JK Wedding Entrance

VIRAL VIDEO Walking down the aisle will never be the same. In this video, which has racked up 11 million hits on YouTube so far, guests at the wedding of Jill Peterson and Kevin Heinz opt for a little funky dance to the beat of Chris Brown's Forever. The rest, as they say, is viral video history.

Sway magazine not hit by hard times

Economic realities have forced many publishers to downsize, but Toronto's Sway magazine is bucking the trend.

Geared towards a black audience, the glossy lifestyle quarterly is spreading its wings and going national. This month it is available in 150 stores

across the country, including Chapters and Indigo locations.

"We've seen our revenues go up by 30 per cent in the last year and we'd like to make the magazine accessible to the whole country," says Alan Vernon, Sway's associate publisher and editorial director.

"There are 800,000 black people in the country. Half of that number is in Toronto, half is not. We want to raise our brand visibility outside the GTA."

Vernon says the magazine, free in Toronto, will be sold for \$4.95 outside the city.

MAUREEN LITTLEJOHN
/FOR METRO CANADA



Sway magazine is a glossy lifestyle quarterly aimed at the country's black population.

Mix of Six

Strathmore Heritage Days & Rodeo

When: July 31 to Aug. 3
Where: 33 Wheatlan Trail, Strathmore

Already missing the Stampede? Then check the Strathmore Heritage Days & Rodeo where there is something for everyone including dog show, monster truck rides and running with the bulls. For more information visit stratmorerodeo.com

Calgary Fringe Festival

When: July 31 to Aug. 8
Where: Various locations
Come out and see uncensored, unexpected, unforgettable theatre performances in Calgary. For more information on schedules and tickets visit calgaryfringe.ca.

Multiple Miles for Myeloma

When: Saturday
Where: North Glenmore Park
The first annual Multiple Miles for Myeloma is a 5-km walk or 8-km run. For more information visit runningroom.com.

Canmore Folk Music Festival

When: Saturday to Monday
Where: Centennial Park
A weekend of performances such as Blackie & the Rodeo Kings, Luke Doucet and Bop Ensemble with the Three Sisters in the background. Tickets available at the gates for \$25 on Aug 1 and \$30 on Aug 2 and 3. Senior and child passes available for \$5. Visit canmorefolkfestival.com.

Inglewood Sunfest

When: Saturday
Where: Streets of Inglewood
The annual festival features street performers and activities including, art bazaar, torso tours and beer gardens. For more information call 403-265-3378.

Rock the Bells 2009

When: Sunday
Where: Shaw Millennium Park
Music festival featuring NAS, Cypress Hill, Damien Marley, Big Boi, K'naan and more. Show starts at noon. Tickets are \$80.50 and can be purchased at Ticketmaster.

Rodriguez, Pena join Battle cast

FILM Michelle Rodriguez, Michael Pena and Bridget Moynahan have been recruited to join Columbia's Battle: Los Angeles.

The sci-fi action film, directed by Jonathan Liebesman, stars Aaron Eckhart as a Marine staff sergeant who, with his new platoon, must battle an alien invasion on the streets of Los Angeles. Rodriguez will play Cpl.

Adriana Santos, a member of a radio battalion. Pena plays the father of a boy the Marines find along the way, and Moynahan plays a veterinarian.

Rodriguez next appears in James Cameron's sci-fi epic Avatar. She will star in the historical drama Tropic of Sangre, her first film as a producer.

REUTERS

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Tween idol Zac Efron, known more for his dancing and singing skills than for risking life and limb, took the plunge while bungee-jumping for the first time in Vancouver on Saturday, people.com reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Celebrity Buzz

Madonna's right to bear arms

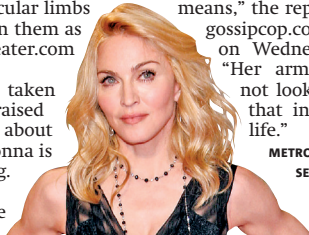
REBUTTAL Madonna's rep has dismissed a controversial snapshot of the pop star with muscular limbs and zero fat on them as a fake, popeater.com reports.

The photo, taken on July 26, raised questions about whether Madonna is over-exercising.

"Madonna's arms in the

most recent photos have absolutely been altered by Photoshop or some other means," the rep told gossipcop.com on Wednesday. "Her arms do not look like that in real life."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



A little bit of country drama

DENIAL Country singer Kenny Chesney is blasting a tabloid report that he and Jessica Simpson flirted in front of Tony Romo at a July 4 party just days before the couple's breakup, people.com reports.

"Tony's a friend, and I wouldn't flirt with a buddy's girlfriend," Chesney told People. "More importantly, Jessica was just be-

ing sweet and there was nothing else to it.

"If a girl and her boyfriend can't go to someone's house for a Fourth of July party and talk to the other guests without it turning into a big nightmare ... then I feel really sorry for Jessica and Tony,

who're both really nice people," Chesney said. "I talked to a bunch of

guests, hung out, had a good time."

Simpson and Romo split five days later on July 9 — the night before Simpson's 29th birthday.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Mischa is moving too quickly: Pal

CONCERN Friends are worried that actress Mischa Barton is jumping into work on her new TV series, *The Beautiful Life*, too quickly after her recent hospitalization.

"Mischa needs more aggressive treatment over a long period of time," a friend told Gatecrasher. "It's only been a matter of days since she was released from the hospital, and I think she definitely wasn't there long enough."

"She needs to be very cautious — she's at a very big risk. I personally think it's a bad idea to go back this quickly, given her past history with substance abuse."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Katherine gets custody of MJ's kids

FINALLY SETTLED The question of who gets custody of Michael Jackson's three kids has been answered: They're going with their grandmother, Katherine Jackson, her lawyer told the CBS Early Show yesterday.

L. Londell McMillan said that after several weeks of

negotiations, Katherine reached a deal with Debbie Rowe, the biological mother of the older two children, which gives Rowe visitation rights but no financial compensation. "This is not

a money deal," McMillan said. "There's no situation better for these children than to be raised and reared under the care of Mrs. Jackson."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Studio and Rachelle stand off

OFF-SET DRAMA After replacing Rachelle Lefevre with Bryce Dallas Howard for the third *Twilight* film, *Eclipse* — and hearing how "stunned" and "hurt" Lefevre is — Summit Entertainment defended its decision, saying it's her fault, people.com reports.

"We ... are disappointed by Rachelle Lefevre's recent comments which at-

tempt to make her career choices the fault of the studio," a statement read.

According to Summit, Lefevre was well aware of the shooting schedule for *Eclipse* when she signed on with another movie that had a conflicting schedule. Making things worse, Lefevre didn't tell Summit about the other film until two months after agreeing to do it, Summit says.

METRO WORLD NEWS



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Friday

Sunny
26°C / 11°C

Saturday

Mostly sunny
32°C / 11°C

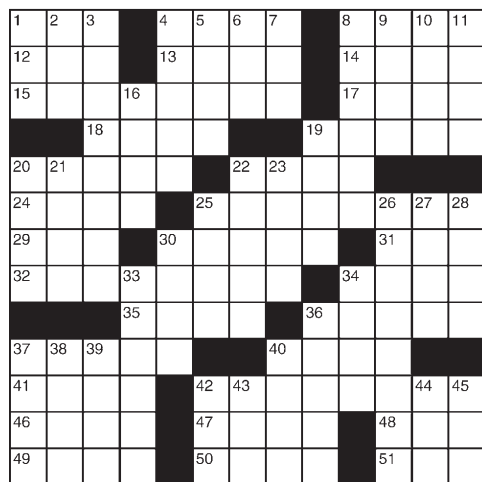
Sunday

Mostly sunny
29°C / 14°C

Andrew Schultz, Weather Specialist – Breakfast Television

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WEEKDAYS AT 6 A.M.



ACROSS

1 Completely
4 Tarot cards' determination
8 Pack away
12 Vast expanse
13 Finished
14 One of the Three Bears
15 Optimistic
17 Wishes otherwise
18 Midas' desire
19 Snag
20 Basilica areas
22 Erstwhile ugly duckling
24 Men
25 Bits of trickery
29 Grecian vessel
30 Michael of tennis
31 Exist
32 GOP symbol
34 Recognized
35 Safecracker
36 Theater boxes
37 Bank structure
40 Hardy cabbage
41 Roughly
42 Pocket Books logo

46 Adolescent
47 Sandwich cookie
48 Possess
49 They're prominent on 32-Across
50 Summer desserts
51 Born

DOWN

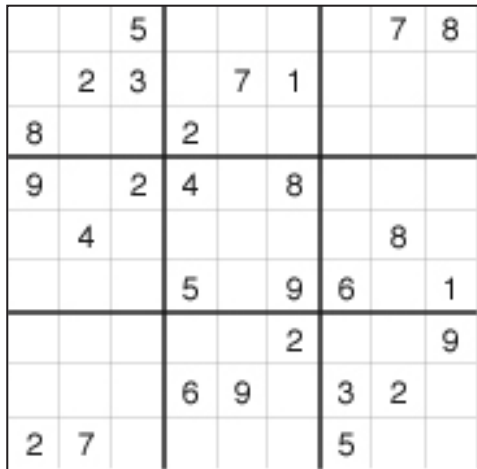
1 Fool
2 Meadow
3 "Auld —"
4 Basketball nouns
5 Eager
6 X rating?
7 Earlier than
8 Leap
9 Tense
10 Cartel acronym
11 Lave
16 "And so it —"
19 Reagan Cabinet member
20 Chills and fever
21 Knitting stitch
22 Word on the street?

23 Departed
25 Carpet type
26 Parasite
27 Genealogy chart
28 Fixes a seam
30 Guitarist
33 Traffic cones
34 Caffeine-rich nut
36 Former capital of Nigeria
37 Cast a ballot
38 Vicinity
39 AOL client, e.g.
40 Dandling site
42 Japanese pond carp
43 Joan of —
44 Have bills
45 Inseparable

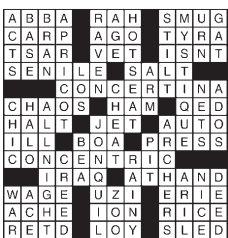
Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

sallybrompton.com

ARIES
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Your instincts can usually be trusted to point you in the right direction, but today they may not be quite so reliable, so think twice.



TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A colleague will fall out of favor on the work front today, leaving the way clear for you to step in and move up the ladder. It's your big chance!



LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
You can expect some kind of bonus or reward today, but it does not have to be of a financial nature. Most likely you will be granted an insight.



SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
The more you want to follow a certain course of action, the more others will try to convince you to do something different.



GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
By all means push ahead with your plans today, but bear in mind that while Mercury opposes Neptune, some of those plans may be questionable.



SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
It will pay you to be nice to people today, not least because you will need their help later on. And while you're at it, why not change your perspective?



CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
You'll be offered some kind of deal, and it will be tempting to say the least, but you must not agree to do anything that goes against your principles.



CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
Stick to what you know best and don't stray into areas where your understanding is limited. What are you passionate about?



LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
A business associate will try to convince you that what they are selling is worth more than you are willing to pay. Don't fall for it.



AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Raise your sights as high as you can and believe that you can create something meaningful and magnificent in the world. You have a special talent.



VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
You are well aware of your shortcomings but you are even more aware that you have done many things to be proud of. Feel good about yourself.



PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Everything around you may be in flux at the moment, but you are a picture of perfect calm. Why change for the sake of change?



WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

- Wagers with NY's Citi Field team (1)
- Catch sight of a trio (1)
- Tidy set of hotel rooms (1)
- Blonder risk or challenge-taker (2)
- Actress Field's bowling lanes (2)
- Shakespeare theatre's disco lights (1)
- Alaskan island chain air fouling (3)

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

ANSWERS
7-31-09

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This day in history

JULY 31, 30 BC: Battle of Alexandria: Mark Antony achieves a minor victory over Octavian's forces, but most of his army subsequently deserts, leading to his suicide.
JULY 31, 1498: On his third voyage to the Western Hemisphere, Christopher Columbus becomes the first European to discover the island of Trinidad.
JULY 31, 2006: Fidel Castro hands over power temporarily to brother Raúl Castro. This leads to a celebration in Little Havana (La Pequeña Habana in Spanish), Miami, Fla., where many Cuban Americans participated.

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